

U.S. Appln. No. 09/492,044  
Reply to Final Office Action dated May 22, 2006

PATENT  
450100-02278

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okuyasu, et al.  
 Serial No. : 09/492,044  
 For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS  
AND METHOD  
 Filed : January 26, 2000  
 Examiner : Hwang, Joon H.  
 Art Unit : 2166  
 Confirmation No. : 9377

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on May 22, 2006, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on August 22, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.